

## New-York Tribune.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1912.

This newspaper is owned and published by The Tribune Association, a New York corporation; office and principal place of business, Tribune Building, No. 154 Nassau street, New York; Ogden M. Reid, president; Condé B. Smith, secretary; James M. Barrett, treasurer. The address of the officers is the office of this newspaper.

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Foreign subscriptions to all countries in the Universal Postal Union, including postage: Daily and Sunday, one year, \$17.50; Sunday only, one year, \$10.00.

**CANADIAN RATES.**—By Mail, Postpaid: Daily and Sunday, one year, \$10.00; Sunday only, one year, \$5.00. Entered at the Postoffice at New York as Second Class Mail Matter.

## THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

**FOREIGN.**—The Empress Dowager of China issued an edict instructing Yuan Shih-kai to co-operate with the British and French in the establishment of a republic. President Madero said alliances between his country and Latin American states would not profit Mexico "one whit." General Orozco arrived in Juarez and announced his intention of removing all military troops thence to Chihuahua.

King George and Queen Mary arrived at Spithead from India and were scheduled to land at Portsmouth to-day.

Resentment was expressed in Paris at the activity of Italy in the Red Sea, which in many cases was injurious to French interests.

**DOMESTIC.**—President Taft suspended the order of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs that practically forced members of religious orders from the Indian schools. The Public Service Commission, 2d District, ordered a further hearing on the applications of the New York and New Jersey Electric Light and Heat Company for a franchise to operate the Ontario and Western and of the New Haven to buy a majority of stock of the Rutland Railroad. Monsignor Burtell, of the Catholic Church, was reported to have been arrested in Kingston, N. Y., for molesting a woman.

A dispatch from Norfolk, Va., reported that the British cotton steamer *Consolidator* and the rescue of the boat's crew. An Atlanta mob lynched Charles Powell, a negro, who assaulted and robbed a white woman a few hours after his arrival in the city. Philadelphia's "Tenderloin" district caused more than \$1,000,000 loss. The foreman of a Hoosier Tunnel gang suddenly became insane and killed two of his men and himself.

Bradford R. Lansing died at his home in Rensselaer, N. Y. The two bride in Rensselaer Falls went out with seven people on it; three persons were drowned but the four others succeeded in getting ashore. A dispatch from Indianapolis stated that Colonel Liller, Governor Wilson's chief organizer in the State, had been killed by a bullet from a car. The Central Labor Union decided to aid the Industrial Workers of the World, a rival organization, in the strike of the Hay baling men. A large majority of army officers expressed opposition to the Hay bill calling for five-year enlistments, a Washington dispatch stated.

**CITY.**—Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Noble, the late Mrs. Walter L. Suydam, Jr., who eloped from Blue Point, Long Island, last September and were married less than a month ago, after she had been divorced, were found dead in their apartment, in the city, with the doors and windows open.

Mortimer L. Schiff said he opposed the pardon of F. E. Brandt because of the lying and scurrilous charges upon him.

Miss Annie Peck reached port, having planted the suffrage banner on an Andean peak 20,000 feet above the sea.

Stephen B. Hays, a prominent educator, was elected to the post of principal of the public schools, supported by letters from teachers.

**THE WEATHER.**—Indications for today: Generally fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 25 degrees; lowest, 11.

**NO SURRENDER THIS TIME.**

It is to be hoped that the House of Representatives will stand firm in its contention that the eighteen existing pension agencies shall be consolidated into one central agency at Washington. The pension appropriation bill which passed the House of Representatives last Friday went a little further than similar bills in recent years have gone. Previously the House merely omitted any provision for the seventeen agencies outside Washington, being tied down by the rule which prohibited general legislation of any sort on an appropriation bill. Under the House code as amended last spring general legislation on an appropriation bill is permissible, if it reduces expenditure, and the popular branch has now taken advantage of that latitude to repeal the statute under which the pension agencies were established.

The Commissioner of Pensions has long been anxious to get rid of the cumbersome and expensive machinery by means of which pension payments are now made. He wants to be allowed to pay all pensioners by check direct from Washington and to save the payee the fee which he has now to give to a notary public for attesting his signature on a voucher. The check itself is to serve as a voucher, which is to be signed by two witnesses to the pensioner's signature. Much useless correspondence will be thus avoided and the payee will get his quarterly allowance about eleven days earlier than he gets it now.

The Senate has stood in the way of this desirable reform in pension administration because it has been unwilling to see seventeen useless offices wiped out. Those offices are treated as patronage, and Senators have been extremely reluctant to decrease the outstanding supply of federal appointees subject to confirmation. The House by a non-partisan vote has tried at least three times to get rid of the pension agencies, thus saving the government at least \$200,000 a year. But the Senate has resisted and won its point by threatening to let the pension appropriation bill fail rather than sacrifice the pension agencies.

the pension agents. This year the House should have the moral courage to hold out for its contention. The issue is one of economical and efficient administration against the perverse theory that it is the government's business to establish and maintain offices for the convenience of politicians and their dependents. This time common sense ought to win against spoils.

## A BALKY MOVEMENT.

The refusal of the Cook County Republican Convention to endorse Colonel Roosevelt for the Presidency is a severe blow to those who have been using his name to further their own political purposes. They have been promising all along that things would happen which would show the overwhelming popular demand for Colonel Roosevelt's nomination. One of the things that were to happen was a declaration of the Chicago Republicans for him. But the Chicago Republicans contented themselves with merely applauding the resolutions in his favor and voting overwhelmingly against his adoption. The convention after endorsing Mr. Taft's administration avoided taking the responsibility of naming its choice for the Presidency, but resolved in favor of leaving the selection of a candidate to the people in a Presidential primary.

Mr. Taft can await the result of such a primary with confidence. His campaign is gaining strength daily. Such incidents as the failure of the Roosevelt boomers in Chicago and the overwhelming endorsement of the President here in New York County and also in Brooklyn will redound enormously to his advantage. Meanwhile, the campaign which is being conducted with the use of Colonel Roosevelt's name is taking on more and more the aspect of a spectacular affair managed by a lot of political "Abernathy kids." They have undertaken to stampede the country, and the country is not being stampeded. Chicago did not furnish the "first break" that was to carry the nation off its feet. It discreetly sidestepped to let some one else have the opportunity. The irresistible movement halts and declines to get under way. Those who are using Colonel Roosevelt's name in this enterprise are doing him an ill service.

## PANAMA ROUTE MILEAGE.

The recent publication of statistics by the "Hansa" newspaper, of Hamburg, should serve to correct a too common and quite incorrect impression concerning the Panama Canal and its relation to the trade routes of the world. That will greatly shorten the sea route between the two coasts of the United States is obvious. So is it that it will bring us into much more direct intercourse with the west coast of South America. But there has been a notion extant that it will offer great advantages to commerce to other parts of the world, and that shipping between, for example, England and Australia, and England and New Zealand will continue to go by way of the old routes, through the Suez Canal or around the Cape of Good Hope.

The error of this is seen in the "Hansa's" figures, which might readily have been worked out by anybody before. There will be eight hundred miles saved by the Panama route on the voyage from England to Australia. On that from England to New Zealand the saving will be twice that distance. Still greater will be the gain between England and the Pacific ports of the American continent, namely, 2,100 miles to Valparaiso and 6,200 to San Francisco. Between Europe and the ports of China and Japan there may be little or no gain, or even some actual loss, yet even that does not prove that such commerce will entirely shun Panama, for the reason that that route, if not always shorter, is more direct and straighter than that through Suez, and that is no mean advantage to some commerce.

The more the matter is considered the more likely it seems that the patronage of our canal will be much greater than the critics have estimated. This impression is deepened by the extensive preparations which nearly all other maritime nations are energetically making to improve the opportunity which the opening of the canal will afford. There should be in it an irresistible incentive to still more energetic preparations to the same end in this country and to the encouragement thereof by the rules and regulations of the canal in every proper and possible way. Grant and Hay have the seal of an American canal under American control. It should also be for American commercial profit.

## CANADA AHEAD OF US.

They order some things much better in Canada. The Canadian House of Commons has just passed by a unanimous vote the following resolution: "That this House is of the opinion that the expansion or extension of the parcels post system would be in the public interest." Under the Dominion postal act no legislation is necessary to extend the parcels post system, but the action taken by the House of Commons will be accepted by the Cabinet as a warrant for increasing the weight and size of parcels carried and extending the rural free delivery system.

The people of Canada will therefore soon be in a position to benefit by a modern parcels post, like that enjoyed by most civilized nations. The advantages of such a service are obvious. It tends to put producers and consumers and sellers and purchasers into closer relations and to eliminate one source of waste in distribution. The government is willing to carry parcels at the bare cost of transportation. It seeks no profit. If, therefore, it undertakes to maintain a parcels post of the modern sort it will encourage the producer at one end of the line to deal directly with the consumer at the other end. If the farmer could send his less perishable products direct to a city purchaser the latter could probably buy eggs, apples, potatoes and many other vegetables at a rate which would seem cheap to him and yet give the farmer a larger return than he now gets from the wholesaler. Both producer and consumer would be benefited to some extent independent of the intermediaries who now play the middle against both ends. Conversely the farmer could deal with the city producer and avoid the drain of several handlings of goods and of several profits.

The United States almost alone among the leading countries of the world still clings to an obsolete restriction upon the activities of the postal service. It is ashamed to treat foreigners as shabbily as it treats its own citizens, for it will carry larger packages at cheaper rates when they come in from abroad or are marked for delivery abroad. Congress should wake up and follow the Canadian Parliament's example. Instead of talking about the

high cost of living, why not do something which may help to make exchange easier and living cheaper?

## "PERILOUS AS A BATTLEFIELD."

The corners find that life in New York, especially upon the streets of the city, is almost as perilous as life on a battlefield. Five thousand seven hundred and one persons met violent deaths in Manhattan during 1911, an increase of 292 over the number for 1910. The list of deaths by conflagration may be said to give the clue to this appalling waste of life. Out of 161 persons thus dying more than 140 were killed in the Washington Place fire. They, at least, and probably many more of the 161, were the victims of unenforced law, of failure to take obvious precautions for safety, of wanton disregard of human life.

In almost every classification under which the corners list many deaths. Of deaths from elevator accidents—68—the corners report that at least 75 per cent might have been prevented if the elevators had been equipped with proper safety devices. In the majority of cases of killing of people by automobiles the corners found evidence of "carelessness," "excessive speed" and "failure to give proper warnings to pedestrians." With regard to homicides by shooting, a failure properly to enforce the Sullivan law regarding the sale of pistols is reported.

So it goes through the entire list. Lawlessness, the inefficient enforcement of law, the cheap regard in which human life is held, neglect to use safety devices, and, above all, the readiness to take chances where life is at stake cost New York a host of lives annually. Of the nearly six thousand violent deaths last year it is impossible to say how many were preventable, but the proportion was undoubtedly large. In its callousness regarding the needless waste of human lives this country has never got far away from the spirit of its frontier days.

## A TRAGEDY OF THE HIGHER MORALITY.

About the only useful conclusion to be drawn from the suicide of the wealthy young married woman who eloped from Blue Point, Long Island, and of the plumber's helper with whom she ran away and whom she later married is that divorce is not a specific for unhappiness. Yet that it is the chief argument made for revising matrimonial relations in the light of their results. This young couple had every opportunity which the advocates of divorce would insist upon. Judicial separation came promptly, and without unreasonable delay the law which forbade the wife to remarry permitted itself to be violated under color of showing proper respect for the acts of a neighboring sovereign state. Thus the new romance was not unduly obstructed. And so far as the public is informed economic difficulties, which wreck many married lives, did not disturb this pair.

Yet where the first marriage had merely proved such a bore that the young wife could find relief for it only in a "haison," the second turned out to be so intolerable that within a month both participants sought escape from it in death. It is easy to guess at the elements that contributed to the cruelly swift disillusionment. The sacrifice that was made, including position, the respect of the world and all the other things that mean so much to every one except in moments when the judgment is upset by passion, was not worth while. The disparity between the pair that were reunited according to later lights invited catastrophe.

If the belief that to recast one's lot in defiance of "convention" is brave and an act of the higher morality did not prompt among the inconsiderate such reckless plunges as this one it would be less dangerous. The common duty is to make the best of things as they are. The teaching that it is not inspires people who might with a little patience have succeeded in performing it to make wild and often ineffectual attempts to obtain happiness elsewhere.

## MONEY AND BUSINESS.

Increasing bank reserves at this time, while reflecting an absence of active demand throughout the country from mercantile and speculative quarters for loan accommodation, suggest that when the time is ripe for industrial expansion on a large scale there will be an ample supply of money for the promotion and advancement of the country's business activities. Accumulation of surplus funds in New York has made it the cheapest money market in the world. The extensive movement of currency from the interior has enabled our bankers to place heavy loans abroad, where rates are more attractive than at this point, and with our constantly growing excess of shipments of merchandise over imports a situation has been created that places the United States in the first position as a creditor nation. Our credits in Europe are enormous. When the money represented by these credits is needed here it can easily be withdrawn, and that it will be needed before the close of the current year is the opinion of the best informed men in the financial community. At the moment general trade, as far as forward commitments are concerned, is disappointing, but at the same time a large volume of day-to-day business is being handled, evidence of which is found in the record of bank clearings and railroad gross earnings in most parts of the country.

Bank clearings for January present an appreciable gain over the total for the same month last year, the larger number of cities showing increases, although somewhat owing to lighter speculative movements in this city. Outside of New York, however, the January returns are heavier than ever before for a corresponding month, exceeding the record of 1911 by more than 6 per cent and that of 1910 by more than 7 per cent. Current business in the leading lines is wholly for immediate necessities, speculation and actual operations for the future naturally being light in view of tariff uncertainty, political agitation against the corporations and present and predicted unrest in labor circles. Buyers for out-of-town houses now visiting this city are operating chiefly in small lots and are doing little to anticipate future requirements. Staple goods are in fair demand and the prominent drygoods markets present improvement as compared with the conditions noted at the close of the last year. Exports of cotton are heavy and well in excess of the shipments at this time in 1911, foreign spinners showing a greater desire than the American mills to secure raw supplies. Both the spot and option cotton markets are

stronger, and it is quite evident the low point for the season has been passed.

New orders in the iron and steel market are moderately heavy, but the industry is far from the point that means big profits for the companies. Prices for finished steel materials will have to move considerably higher before the manufacturers will be able to figure on a wide margin of profit, but the fact that quotations are low is encouraging liberal specifications and strengthening the theory that it is a matter of a short time only when higher figures will develop. "The Iron Age" says that the aggregate of January bookings by the larger steel concerns was not far from the actual shipments. Although the Northern pig iron markets are quiet, improvement is reported in the South. Copper metal conditions are unchanged, and consumers apparently have large enough stocks on hand to last for some time to come, but this situation is not effective in bringing about important concessions in quotations. Coal is in good demand, and local dealers are working overtime to supply the inquiries from individuals and manufacturers who fear the possibility of a strike in the anthracite region at the expiration on April 1 of the agreement between the miners and the mine owners.

General commodity prices show no important change from the levels recorded a week ago, wheat being an exception, having advanced under the influence of a good cash demand, active European buying and a decrease in the world's visible supply. Notwithstanding indications that appear to point to a strong wheat market for months to come, buyers of flour continue to follow the policy pursued so long of dealing only for immediate requirements. In spite of easy money, speculation in stocks, outside of a few issues, is light in volume, with no indication of interest in the market on the part of the public, although investors show some inclination to take high grade stocks and bonds that can be bought on a satisfactory income basis. Stocks are in strong hands, and while there is an aggressive bear party in the Street declines in prices when made are easily recovered.

Had Cicero been in Philadelphia on Friday he might have repeated his question to another Senator: "How long, O Catinell! will you abuse our patience?" The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court has ruled that the tenant in an apartment house is entitled to at least a normal supply of heat. That decision establishes him at last on a level with the janitor and the hallboy.

Two highly discreditable items of news came simultaneously to hand. One is that last year on the railroads within the city of New York 39,398 persons were injured by accidents, of whom 2,433 were seriously hurt and 314 were killed. The other is that fires in the United States cause losses of more than \$500 a minute and kill 7,500 persons a year. The conviction is unavoidable that a large proportion of these shocking losses might be prevented.

Pittsburgh is wrestling with the interesting constitutional question whether or not a convict can be made to hear sermons. On the strength of that most eminent authority, W. S. Gilbert, we should say that the practice was not only constitutional but "all sublime."

Disputes over pasteurization and non-pasteurization of milk and over the various methods of effecting the former may go on forever. There can be no rational dispute over the desirability of keeping milk as scrupulously clean as possible, regardless of what else may or may not be done to it. Perfectly clean milk may or may not need treatment of any kind to make it keep well or to make it wholesome, but no sterilizing or other process can make it palatable if it has an admixture of filth.

"The Philadelphia Record" says that the New York Legislature "has shown a curiously provincial spirit by pushing 'along a bill which makes a residence of 'one year in the state necessary before 'any one can obtain public employment, 'and making residence in the state necessary for 'salaried employees.' It says this would have barred the importation of Dr. Billings as librarian of the New York Public Library (which is erroneous, as he is not a city employee), and would prevent New York from obtaining many of Pennsylvania's good school teachers. 'However,' it adds, 'if New York wants 'to show this petty spirit nobody outside 'is likely to object.' As a matter of fact, nobody outside or in need feel badly worried. The bill is merely one of Tammany's annual output. It has visited the Legislature for many years without becoming law, and its prospects are no better this time. New York State is not going to erect such a barrier to improvement in public service to satisfy any lurking provincialism or state Tammany's job lust.

## THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Farming at night is an innovation introduced by E. W. Fowler, who lives twelve miles west of Lodi, Cal. Fowler has two crews of six men each, and has been ploughing night and day. "Immense headlights," says "The Argonaut," "are attached to the ploughs, and the laborers declare that they can see at night almost as well as during the day. An incongruous feature of the work is that when the night crew is eating breakfast at 6 o'clock at night, the day shift is eating supper from the same table. Fowler is planting two thousand acres of barley, and has resorted to the novel scheme of working twenty-four hours a day, in order that he may get the grain in before the heavy rains."

Collector-Sir, this is the 250th time I called on you.

The Man—That's a good score. What's game?—Chicago News.

Raising his calculations on figures obtained through the marriage and death records, Dr. Joseph Jacobs estimates the Jewish population of New York at 265,000 in 1900, the number of "The American Hebrew," of those about 10 per cent are native born of native parents, as against 16.3 per cent of the population in general, while another 20 per cent are native born of foreign parentage. The statement shows further that two-thirds of the Jews who came to this country from 1880 to 1905 were from Russia and that of the population in question five-ninths are Russian and two-ninths Austrian.

Hubbards—So you don't agree that the age of miracles is passing?—The man who says that is a fool. There's a man out my way who has had the same cook for nearly a year.—Philadelphia Record.

"All about the inauguration of George Washington" a loud-voiced man called in front of a quick lunch place yesterday. "Nobody seems to be interested in the matter," while the numbers of patent suspender buttons, neck cards and fountain pens held large audiences. Presently an elderly man asked the price of the "All about Washington"

paper and eagerly bought it for five cents. The vendor had one copy of the yellow paper still in his hand. "Is that the last of 'em?" asked the customer. "That's the last—sure!" "I'll take it," and the collector of antique papers joined the crowd of quick lunch people. When he reached the street again the paper was gone and had resumed his wonting. "All about the first President," said the man who had bought "the last copy," "when were these papers printed?" "Don't tell nobody—May 2, 1789—maybe," and then in a higher key: "All about the inauguration of Washington!"

"I suppose you've been begging all your life, haven't you?" said the lady to the tramp at the back door.

He simply shook an anxious head. And "Seventy" was what he said.

Someone murmured: "Can you state Whom some one said: 'The groundhog went back to his little earthwork tent.' He simply shook an anxious head. And 'Seventy' was what he said.

When some one shouted: "Butter, eggs and meat speed on with magic legs." High prices he did not berate. But whispered, "Only sixty-eight!"

Affairs of which all others spoke. Gained no comment from him. No joke could make him grin. He'll cry to-day, "Ho, sixty-seven!"—so they say.

Know you, this queer and trembling man is of that tribe, the baser "fan." And counts the hours as each departs. Before the baseball season starts.

Sublimely I believe Swampscott is un- happy. Since he has lived out there my wife can scarcely speak above a whisper. Henspeckle—Do you suppose I could find a house there?—Philadelphia Record.

The universal peace movement and the donation of Andrew Carnegie to that cause were under discussion at a dinner party, when the host said that he had been drafted into the service on the day of his birth, and in explanation said: "When I was born—January 23, 1852—my father began a scrapbook for men with clippings from the papers of that day. Among them was one stating that Alexander H. Stephens, Vice-President, and R. M. T. Hunter, a Senator of the Southern Confederacy, had gone to Fortress Monroe with orders from Jefferson Davis to negotiate for peace. Years later I was told that every body at that time was anxious for peace, and that accounts for my middle name, which is 'Peace.'"

Mrs. Byron—That's the kind of husband to have! Did you hear Mr. Dike tell his wife to go and look at some 125 hats?

Mr. Byron—My dear, have you derived yet the privilege of looking at 120 hats?

—Tribune.

## THE PENSION LIST.

Writer Thinks It Should Be Spread Before the Public.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: As a constant reader of The Tribune I desire to express my appreciation of your editorial on pensions in the issue of January 27. It is a paper on which we can rely for sound and fearless opinions on great issues. All American citizens not personally interested in pensions will say "Amen" to your words that "the government cannot afford to assume any more pension obligations at present."

We notice the constant passing away of the veterans of the Civil War, and this fact is used as an argument for larger appropriations. Nevertheless the annual payments keep up amazingly. Near the very end of the year the coming fiscal year requires we are just told, more than \$152,000,000. In the ordinary course of events there should be diminution, not increase. Is it not time for an examination of the pension rolls? Grave charges are made that, as your editorial states, "a good deal of pension money now goes to persons who do not deserve to receive it." I advocate the bill of Senator Bryan for the publicity of the identity of the pensioners of the government rolls. What is more reasonable? If a firm pays out vast sums all the members of that firm have the right, and exercise it, to know where the money goes. Shall not the American people, to whom belongs the money distributed in pensions, know that their funds are wisely and honestly paid out? JOHN K. JONES. Metuchen, N. J., Jan. 31, 1912.

## DIRECT PRIMARIES.

A Plea for a System by Which the Voters May Name the Candidates.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Your editorial relating to the efforts making at Albany to obtain the best possible direct primary bill will pass and meet the approval of all who are earnestly correct and cautious. Anything cannot fail to be an improvement over the law enacted last year. Of course, there are many provisions essential to a practical bill which will give the qualified voters the determination and nomination of candidates to be voted for on Election Day. This system has its advantages. Both political parties are committed to direct primaries. It seems agreed that the enrolled voters shall have the final decision as to who the candidate shall be.

This is a great gain in some respects over any other nominating system, but so long as the voters are not permitted to name the candidate whose name is to be printed on the primary ballot the enrolled voter, simply has Hobson's choice—namely, to choose among candidates named by others. This first choice is vital to any successful direct primary system. The key to the completion of any fair and just direct primary system is to rest solely in the voters, the first initiative of naming the candidates for the primary ballot. As it stands county committees or sub-committees of the county committee name the candidates for the primary ballot. In practice how would such a system work? The present members of the county committee would name the successors for the primary ballot, thus they would be a perpetuating body. The resident members of the present county committee in each Congress, Senate and Assembly district constitute the nominating power in their respective districts. They select the candidates to be placed on the primary ballot.

The only chance the enrolled party voter has is to file a petition for an independent candidate. This is not only costly, but it sows a rebellion against the regular candidate. J. L. MITCHELL. Brooklyn, Feb. 2, 1912.

## THE SULLIVAN-BROOKS BILL.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Assemblyman Andrew F. Murray is quoted in The Tribune to-day as being against the Sullivan-Brooks bill, gradually to reduce the rate of taxation on all buildings in New York City to one-half the tax rate on all land. Mr. Murray says: "This bill would place an unjust burden on the holders of unoccupied property, and the only effect it will have on the situation in New York will be to cause a real estate panic."

Mr. Murray's statements must be substantiated if he expects to have any credence attached to them. The experience of all cities which have tried the lower tax system of the Sullivan-Brooks bill has shown that it does not work. Professor Edwin R. Seligman, of Columbia University, has stated that in no place where the lower tax rate on buildings has been tried have they returned to the old system of uniform taxation.

Assemblyman Murray also says: "In nearly every mortgage held in New York City there is a clause that the mortgagee falls due at any time that the Legislature changes the taxation laws." He claims, too,

that he has inside information that the minute this bill becomes law the large majority of mortgage holders will demand that they be paid. I challenge Assemblyman Murray to show me any mortgage which has a clause that it falls due when the Legislature changes the rate of taxation on other property than on mortgages. If such were the case, Mr. Murray, an astute lawyer, must know, mortgages would be called every year, because the tax rate is changed every year. The Sullivan-Brooks bill does not affect the rate of taxation on mortgages.

Assemblyman Murray also claims that the title guarantee companies and all the money interests are against the measure because it will cause the value of property to depreciate. Grasping money interests wish congestion, because it is profitable to them, and Assemblyman Murray's statement in this connection should be brought to the attention of his constituents who desire relief from increasingly high rents.

WARREN C. EBERLE. New York, Jan. 31, 1912.

## THE KEYSTONE OF SOCIALISM.

A Solution Sought for the Just Distribution of Wealth Created.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I have read with great interest the able contribution of John R. McMahon to the Tribune of January 14 in exposition of the "key stone" question "What is Socialism?" I have also read the so-called reply to Mr. McMahon's article by Dr. Condé B. Pallen, the editor of the recently published "Catholic Encyclopedia." Permit me as a non-socialist to say that if opponents of socialism have no able advocates of their position than Dr. Pallen the march of socialistic ideas will not be stayed. The whole of Dr. Pallen's article is permeated with ridicule and cynicism toward a subject that is treated by the protagonist of socialism calmly, logically and fairly.

Socialism is too profound a subject of human interest to be ridiculed or flippantly discussed. It is the dominating thought in the lives of millions of earnest men and women, and its principles are being extended by a ceaseless propaganda over the entire civilized world. The growth of socialism is so steady, so pervasive, embracing all the classes of society, and so earnestly espoused, when its principles are known, that thoughtful men no longer meet the arguments of the propagandist of socialism with sneers and laughter, but with the most cogent arguments of which they are capable.

If Dr. Pallen wants to attack socialism let him address himself to the problem of the distribution of wealth, for in that, the key stone of the socialist's position, lies the weakness of the whole structure. How does he intend to distribute the wealth created? Is a question which no socialist has ever satisfactorily answered. Dr. Pallen made the great mistake of attacking socialism because of its free love and irreligious element. Let him be fair. Free love and irreligion are no part of socialism. Socialism is an economic doctrine, pure and simple, and the private views of socialism toward marriage and the Trinity have nothing to do with socialism.

ARTHUR W. WELLES. Rochester, N. Y., Feb. 1, 1912.

## SPIRITUAL STIMULATION.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The letter in The Tribune of February 1, headed "Austerity Viewed as a Cause of Slim Congregations," makes me criticize the writer, who frankly admits that he is not a churchman. I am a churchwoman, and find no week quite complete without the uplift of at least one service when we "make our common supplications." To me the preaching of the present day seems to be that expressed by the Psalmist in the 106th Psalm.

I have not yet reached the years of the writer, but know that I have lived long enough—nearly fifty years—to realize that while my upbringing was and is to look upon Sunday as a holy day, it has always also been the happy day of all the week. Possibly if the writer had chosen to avail himself of possible privileges he also could say: "I was glad when they said unto me: 'Let us go into the house of the Lord.'"

CHURCHGOER. New York, Feb. 1, 1912.

## INCOMPLETE HOLIDAYS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The benefits to be derived from an occasional holiday can hardly be overestimated, and it is a pity that the few we have are not more universally observed. The fact that they are not is due entirely to the thoughtless practice of shopping on those days.

The people who do not get holidays are nearly always the hard working ones who need them most. They find plenty of stores open, but in the name of justice and humanity, don't shop. CONSIDERATE. New York, Feb. 3, 1912.

## KING GEORGE HOME AGAIN.

Royal Vessel at Spithead Passes Near Submerged Submarine.

Portsmouth, Feb. 4.—King George and Queen Mary, who left Portsmouth on November 11 on the steamship Medina bound for India, returned from their Durbar trip to-day. At 9 o'clock this morning, fourteen hours in advance of schedule time, passing close to the spot where the submarine A3, with its fourteen dead, lies submerged. The royal steamship was conveyed by the cruisers *Cochrane*, *Argyll*, *Defence* and *Natal*, which, in command of Sir Colin Keppel, had accompanied their majesties on their voyage to India. A heavy snowstorm obscured the view from Spithead, and the Medina slipped in without ceremonial or salute. She went direct to her appointed moorings between the lines of the welcoming fleet.

Their majesties will remain aboard until to-morrow morning, when the Medina will enter the harbor. The royal children, the Queen Mother Alexandra, Winston Spencer Churchill and the other lords of the admiralty arrived here during the course of the day. A family gathering and the official welcome will take place in the morning.

The Medina sailed from Bombay on January 10 and reached Gibraltar on January 20. Owing to the stormy weather all operations directed at raising the submarine A3 were suspended.

## PIGRIMS ELECT OFFICERS.

William Butler Duncan Again Chosen President of Society.

William Butler Duncan was re-elected president of the Pilgrims' Society of America at a meeting held on Saturday at No. 165 Broadway. Former Ambassador Joseph H. Choate, a Pierpont Morgan associate, and George W. Woodford and P. Cunliffe-Owen were re-elected vice-presidents.

William Allen Butler, president of the Lawyers' Club, was elected to fill the place on the executive committee left vacant by the death of Colonel John J. McCook. Other officers elected were George T. Wilson, chairman of the executive committee; R. A. C. Smith, chairman of the committee on admissions; William C. Brown, treasurer, and George W. Burleigh, secretary.

DINNER FOR CARDINAL FARLEY.

The Knights of Columbus will give a dinner for Cardinal Farley at the Hotel Astor this evening. Fifteen hundred persons will be in attendance. The speakers will be Justice Downing, James A. Flaherty, supreme knight of Philadelphia; William A. Boylan and William P. Larkin, chairman of the New York chapter.